

PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Sept. 26th, 1837.—Richard Owen, Esq. in the Chair.

Two small quadrupeds from the Society's collection were exhibited by Mr. Waterhouse, who stated that he believed them to be undescribed species. The first was characterized as

GALAGO ALLENI. *Gal. auribus permagnis, digitis perlongis; vellere intensè plumbeo, rufescente lavato; corpore subtùs flavo lavato.*

Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin, 8 unc. 1 lin.; caudæ, 10 unc.; auris, 1 unc. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lin.: latitudo auris, 11 lin.: longitudo pollicis antipedum, 6 lin.; digiti longissimi, 1 unc. 1 lin.; pollicis pedum posticorum, 7 lin.; digiti longissimi, 1 unc. 2 lin.; pedis postici a calce ad apicem digitorum, 2 unc. 11 lin.

Hab. Fernando Po.

Obs. This specimen, which has four incisors in the upper jaw, and six in the lower, is about the same size as the *Galago Senegalensis*, but may be readily distinguished from that species by the greater size of the ears, (the length of which is equal to the distance between the tip of the muzzle and the base of the ear,) and the great length of the fingers and toes. In the colouring there is also a difference, *G. Senegalensis* being grey, washed with yellow; whereas *G. Alleni* is of a deep slate grey, all the hairs of the upper parts being of a rusty yellow at the apex, or, as on the fore legs, rusty at the tip. The under parts of the body are of a paler hue than the upper, the hairs being of a dirty yellow colour at the tip; but like those of the upper parts, they are of a slate grey for the greater portion of their length: on the throat and chin each hair is whitish at the apex. The hairs covering the feet are of a deep brown colour. The tail is dusky brown.

PTEROMYS (Sciuropterus) HORSFIELDII. *Pter. fuscus, pilis flavescenti-fuscis crebrè interspersis; corpore subtùs flavescenti-albo, genis et patagio lumbari ad marginem rufescenti-flavis; caudâ subtùs nitidè ferrugineâ; auribus mediocribus.*

Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin, 9 unc. 6 lin.; auris, $7\frac{1}{2}$ lin.; tarsi digitorumque, 1 unc. 5 lin.

Obs. This species is of a larger size than the *Pteromys sagitta*, from which it differs in having the ears larger in proportion; the tail more bushy and of an uniform bright rust colour beneath; the margin of the flank skin is of a reddish yellow colour, as are also the sides of the face below the eye. On the upper parts of the body the fur is of a deep brown, each hair being grey at the base; the inter-

spersed longer hairs, which are abundant, are of a bright brown or reddish-yellow colour at the apex. The general tint produced by this mixture is rufous brown. On the under parts of the body the hairs are of a yellow or yellowish white colour, and not grey at the base.

The specimen from which the above description is taken is either from Java or Sumatra. I have taken the liberty of naming it after the author of the 'Zoological Researches in Java,' &c.

Mr. Gould exhibited from his Australian collection of Birds two species of the genus *Platycercus*, which he considered new: for one of these he proposed the specific name of *hæmatonotus*, from the red spot upon its rump; and for the other, which he had very recently received, and which he remarked was one of the most beautiful species of the genus hitherto discovered, that of *hæmatogaster*.

PLATYCERCUS HÆMATONOTUS. *Plat. summo capite, fronte, genis, nuchâ pectoreque smaragdino-viridibus; dorso fusciscenti-viridi; uropygio coccineo; articulo humerali, alâ spuria et pogoniis externis primarium ad partem basalem nitidè cæruleo-nigris, notâ sulphureâ humerali. Remigibus majoribus et minoribus, rectricibusque caudæ duabus intermediis viridibus, hoc colore in cæruleum transeunte ad apicem, apicibus ipsis nigro-fuscis; rectricibus reliquis ad bases viridibus, ad apices et ad pogonia externa cineraceo-albis; abdomine medio flavo; femoribus obscurè cæruleo-viridibus; crisso cineraceo-albo; rostro corneo; pedibus fuscis.*

Long. tot. 11 unc.; alæ 5; caudæ $6\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi $\frac{5}{8}$.

PULLUS intra annum primum, ab ave adultâ differt partibus, quæ in hæc smaragdino-viridibus, in illo cineriscenti-viridibus; necnon crisso haud coccineo, abdomine haud flavo; ast primariis nonnullis, secundariisque ad bases albis.

Hab. Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

Obs. This species unites *Platycercus* to *Nanodes*, and is in fact so directly intermediate between these genera in size and other characters, that it is difficult to decide to which group it should be referred; but I am induced to include it among the *Platycerci*.

PLATYCERCUS HÆMATOGASTER. *Plat. fronte facieque cæruleis; summo capite, nuchâ, plumisque auricularibus flavescenti-cinereis; pectore cinereo tincto brunneo; plumis auricularibus ad partem superiorem stramineis; uropygio, tectricibusque superioribus caudæ cerinis; articulo humerali pallidè cæruleo; primariis intensè fuscis et ad apicem acutis; secundariis tectricibusque majoribus violaceo-cæruleis; tectricibus minoribus*

alisque ad partem superiorem intensè coccineis ; lateribus tectricibusque inferioribus pallidè flavis ; abdomine medio nitidè coccineo ; plumis duabus intermediis caudæ ad bases pallidè olivaceo-viridibus ad apices in cæruleum transeunte. Reliquis plumis ad bases intensè cæruleis ad apices in album transeunte ; rostro corneo ; pedibus fuscis.

Long. tot. 12 unc. ; alæ $\frac{3}{8}$; caudæ 7 ; tarsi $\frac{3}{4}$.

Hab. Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

Mr. Gould also exhibited, on the part of Mr. Burton, a new species of Kingfisher, from the collection at Fort Pitt, Chatham, belonging to the genus *Ceyx*, of Lacépède. Mr. Burton had proposed to characterize it under the specific name of *microsoma*.

Ceyx microsoma. *Ceyx subcristata, capite caudâque suprâ, nuchâ et humeris rufis ; strigâ ab oculis ad nucham (ponè oculos leviter, apud nucham intensè) dorso et uropygio hyalino splendentibus ; alis brunneis, pogoniis remigum internis rufo marginatis, tectricibus punctis hyalinis ornatis : infrâ pallidè rufa hóc colore apud ventrem dilutiore ; mento, gulâ et strigâ auriculari albidis : rostro prægrandi, aurantiaco. Pedibus rubris.*

Long. corp. $4\frac{1}{2}$ unc. ; capitis 2 ; rostri ab apice ad rectum $1\frac{1}{2}$; caudæ 1.

Hab. in Indiâ Maderaspatanâ.

Mr. Gould afterwards exhibited, on the part of the same gentleman, a specimen of the genus *Caprimulgus*, supposed to be the female of *C. monticolus*, and of which Mr. Burton had furnished the following description :

CAPRIMULGUS MONTICOLUS, Franklin*. *Fœmina? Capr. pallidior mari : remigibus maculâ notatis rufâ, ubi mas gaudet albâ ; jugulo rufo tincto ; caudâ rufâ nigro fasciatâ et inspersâ, rufo rectrices apud exteriores dominante, caudâque externâ maris albo omninò carente.*

Formâ et staturâ mari simillimâ.

Hab. in Indiâ septentrionali. In Musæo Medico-militari, Chatham.

Obs. The general form, character and colouring of this specimen harmonize so perfectly with those of *Caprimulgus monticolus*, that I have thought it safe to consider it as the female, until local observation or dissection shall have decided the question : at all events, it is new, and hitherto undescribed.

* Proceedings of the Committee of Science and Correspondence (Zool. Soc.), 1830-1.

A species of the genus *Carduelis*, also from the collection at Chatham, was characterized by Mr. Gould as

CARDUELIS BURTONI. *Card. fronte et regione circum-oculari pulchrè roseis ; vertice genisque nigris ; corpore obscurè fusciscenti-roseo, alis externè nigris, singulis plumis plùs minùsve albo ad apicem notatis ; alà spuria albà ; reatricibus caudæ nigris ; duabus, intermediis ad apicem albis, duabus proximis longius ad apicem albis, reliquis albà notà internè ad basin excurrente ornatis ; rostro pedibusque pallidè fuscis.*

Long. tot. $6\frac{1}{4}$ unc. ; rostri, $\frac{5}{8}$; alæ, $3\frac{7}{8}$; caudæ, $2\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{4}$.

Hab. Himalaya.

Obs. I am indebted to the collection of Fort Pitt, at Chatham, for the knowledge of this very fine species of *Carduelis* : the specimen here characterized is, as far as I am aware, unique. It departs in some respects from the other members of the genus, particularly in the robust form of the beak, which is slightly angulated at the base : the form of its wings and tail, together with their peculiar markings, however, clearly points out that it is only an aberrant species of that group.

I have been induced to give this fine bird the specific appellation of *Burton*, for the purpose of paying a just compliment to Staff-Surgeon Burton, for the warm interest he took in the formation of the Fort Pitt collection, and for the readiness he has at all times evinced to aid in any way the advancement of zoological science.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.

The following gentlemen have been elected office-bearers for 1838 ;

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January 11th, 1838.—Professor Graham, President, in the Chair.

Mr. R. W. Falconer read a Paper “ On the ancient history of the Rose,” in which he gave an account of the rose trees mentioned and